GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:966
ANSWERED ON:20.08.2007
FARMERS LIVING BELOW POVERTY LINE
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has conducted any survey to assess the number of farmers who are living below poverty line in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) the details of the welfare schemes that are being implemented for the farmers;

(d) the details of the funds released by the Government during the last three years and the current year, Scheme-wise and State-wise; and

(e) the number of farmers benefited therefrom?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA)

(a) & (b): According to estimates of the Planning Commission, 30.53 percent of persons belonging to farmer households were living below the poverty line during 2003. This estimate is based on the results of `Situation Assessment Survey of Farmers` conducted by the National Sample Survey Organization. State-wise above data are not available.

(c) to (e) : A number of Centrally Sponsored Schemes viz. Macro Management of Agriculture (MMA), Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oilpalm and Maize (ISOPOM), Technology Mission on Cotton (TMC), National Horticulture Mission, Technology Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture in North Eastern Region including Sikkim, Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand are under implementation in the country for the benefit of farmers. The schemes raise the farm income and thereby the well-being of farmers including those below poverty line. The details of funds released under the major Centrally Sponsored Scheme during the last three years, State-wise are given in attached statement. The schemes are implemented by the State Governments who maintain the list of beneficiaries.